

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Barbara Beerhalter	Chair
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Norma McKanna	Commissioner
Robert J. O'Keefe	Commissioner
Darrel L. Peterson	Commissioner

In the Matter of Winthrop Telephone
Company's Discontinuance Of Joint Service
With Northwestern Bell Telephone Company

ISSUE DATE: May 26, 1988

DOCKET NO. P421, P572/C-86-257

In The Matter Of The Informal Complaint
And Petition For Emergency Relief Of AT&T
Communications Of The Midwest, Inc.

DOCKET NO. P442/C-86-375

In The Matter Of The Petition Of
Northwestern Bell Telephone Company
Relating To The Provision Operator Assisted
Toll Calls To Customers In The Winthrop
Exchange Operated By The Winthrop
Telephone Company

DOCKET NO. P421, P572/C-86-489

In The Matter Of The Informal Complaint
And Petition For Emergency Relief Of
Winthrop Telephone Company Regarding The
Provision Of Joint Service With Northwestern
Bell Telephone Company And AT&T
Communications Of The Midwest, Inc.

DOCKET NO. P572, P421, P442/C-
86-496

ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINTS AND
PETITIONS

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On May 7, 1986, The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Northwestern Bell Telephone Company (NWB) requesting interconnection of a circuit for Financial Data Services Corporation with the Winthrop Telephone Company (Wintel) at Winthrop Minnesota, rather than at microwave facilities in New Ulm Minnesota as proposed by Wintel. Docket No. P421, P572/C-86-257 was assigned to this petition.

On June 23, 1986, the Commission received an Informal Complaint and Petition for Emergency Relief from AT&T Communications Of The Midwest, Inc. (AT&T/MW) requesting that the Commission issue an emergency order requiring NWB and Wintel to complete the installation of the circuit ordered by Financial Data Services Corporation. AT&T/MW will provide part of the circuit ordered by Financial Data Services Corporation which will extend from Minneapolis to Winthrop Minnesota. Docket No. P442/C-86-375 was assigned to this complaint.

On August 8, 1986, NWB submitted a petition alleging that Wintel was diverting operator assisted toll calls which had been carried on NWB's facilities and requesting that Wintel be ordered to resume delivering the calls to NWB. Docket No. P421, P572/C-86-489 was assigned to this petition.

On August 13, 1986, the Commission issued an Order Requiring Temporary Emergency Service And Requiring Legal Briefs in these matters requiring that the circuit ordered by Financial Data Services Corporation be temporarily installed in the manner requested by NWB until these matters were fully resolved.

On August 20, 1986, Wintel submitted a petition requesting that NWB and AT&T/MW be ordered to install certain WATS circuits that had been ordered by Wintel. Docket No. P572, P421, P442/C-86-496 was assigned to this petition.

On April 9, 1987, Wintel submitted a letter withdrawing its complaints and petitions regarding NWB and AT&T/MW in these matters.

On May 13, 1987, NWB submitted a letter requesting that these matters be dismissed.

On June 2, 1987, AT&T/MW submitted a letter indicating that it had no objection to the dismissal of these matters.

On June 4, 1987, the Commission issued a Notice Of Comment Period regarding the proposed dismissal of these matters. The notice was served on Wintel, NWB, AT&T/MW, the Residential Utilities Division of the Attorney General's Office (RUD-AG), and the Minnesota Department Of Public Service (DPS). The notice was also served on New Ulm Telecom, Inc. (New Ulm), Sleepy Eye Telephone Company, and Redwood County Telephone Company which had certain arrangements with the microwave system Wintel proposed to use carry the circuit for Financial Data Service Corporation, and which was addressed in the "New Ulm Toll Case", Docket No. P419/NA-84-334.

On June 16, 1987, New Ulm, submitted a letter stating it did not object to the dismissal of these matters. New Ulm's position was based, in part, on its understanding that any future changes in the facility connections between New Ulm and Wintel would be considered in a separate proceeding,

which was subsequently assigned Docket No. P550, P572/M-87-740.

On June 17, 1987, the DPS submitted a letter indicating it did not object to the dismissal of these matters. No party opposed the dismissal of these matters.

The above entitled matters were informally suspended pending resolution of Docket No. P550, P572/M-87-740 which was considered by the Commission on May 24, 1988.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

NWB requested that the Commission dismiss these matters because discussions between representatives of Wintel and NWB have resolved the issues between these two companies which gave rise to these matters. Discussions leading to the proposed dismissal of these matters involved representatives of the DPS, RUD-AG, AT&T/MW, New Ulm, Wintel, NWB, and the Commission staff.

Wintel and NWB have agreed to the following service arrangements as stated in NWB's letter of May 13, 1987:

1. Wintel will provide space in Wintel's central office to NWB so that NWB may add additional N carrier equipment to handle growth in intraLATA interexchange telecommunications, including private line traffic, 0-level operator traffic, intraLATA MTS toll traffic, and Wintel's need for additional CAMA trunks, among other things.
2. Wintel agrees that Wintel will return 0-level traffic currently moving over the Wintel-New Ulm microwave facility back onto NWB's toll facilities between Winthrop and New Ulm, once NWB has installed additional N Carrier.
3. The private line service currently being provided to Financial Data Services Corporation by Wintel and NWB at the direction of the Commission as stated in the August 13, 1986 Order, and as a temporary measure, in Docket No. P421, P572/C-86-257, will become permanent.

The Commission finds that no party opposed the proposed service arrangements discussed above or the dismissal of these matters. Further, the Commission finds that these arrangements are fair, reasonable and in the public interest. Therefore, the Commission concludes that the service arrangements should be approved, and that these matters should be dismissed without further proceedings. The Commission will so order.

ORDER

1. The service arrangements discussed in this order are approved.
2. The above entitled matters are dismissed.
3. NWB and Wintel shall submit a report to the Commission describing how the arrangements approved by this Order have been carried out within 20 days of the issuance of this Order.
4. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Mary Ellen Hennen
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)